

432 N. Holden Street, Warrensburg, MO 64093

April 30, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re:

CC Docket #: 02-6

Request for Waiver

Pertinent Information

Entity & BEN Trails Regional Library (BEN 137138)

Contact Person Bill Thoms/Ass't Director

Mailing Address 432 N. Holden St., Warrensburg, MO 64093

Phone Number (660) 747-9177, x104 Email thomsb@trailslibrary.org

Funding Year FY-2013 (Jul 1, 2013 – Jun 30, 2014)

Application Type Form 471 application #931738

Appeal Reason Request for waiver of deadline for extenuating

circumstances

Request for Waiver Explanation

I am the Assistant Director of Technology and Facilities for Trails Regional Library, a small library district in the State of Missouri with eight branches serving two counties. Trails Regional Library has a Form 471 on file for FY2013 (Jul 1, 2013 – Jun 30, 2014) that is Certified-Out of Window. Although I have been filing for E-Rate as far back as the mid-nineties (with the local school district), somehow I let the Form 471 filing window get by me.

As you may guess, I am one who wears many hats and stay quite busy jumping back and forth between responsibilities. I try to be as organized as I can managing this program, however, at some points during the year there may be three years worth of paperwork in play which can be confusing. I even go so far as posting checklists for each funding year on a white board in my office to try and keep on top of the different deadlines. I won't go into why I might have thought the deadline was March 31st.

The library has always filed only for Priority 1 requests for telephone and long distance. Because we are a small district, the amount of refund is significant for our budget. If this waiver is not granted, the impact will be on the technology portion of the budget. This would be a direct impact on the patrons who use our facilities. My heart tells me that would not serve the public interest. Trails Regional Library asks that the FCC grant the library a waiver for the Form 471 deadline. And to insure this doesn't happen again, I have enlisted the assistance of a colleague to follow the checklists with me. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Bill Thoms, Ass't Dir/Technology & Facilities